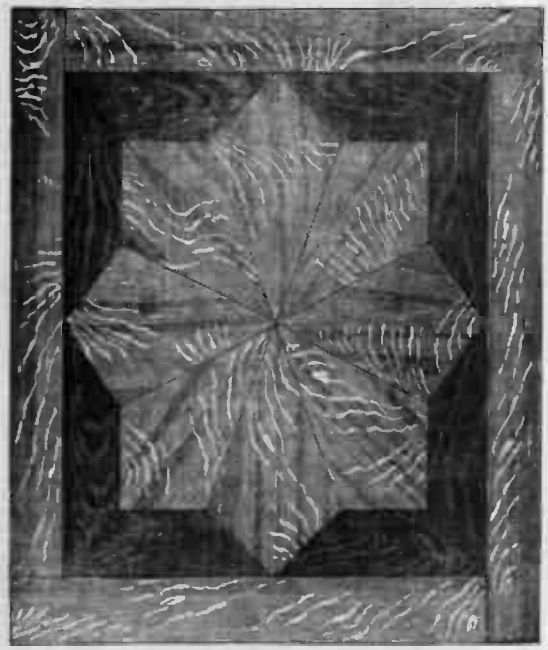
buildings with these. This portico is entire, but the soil having given way in several places, has occasioned many of the columns to deviate from their perpendicular, and the ceiling to open in many places. The platforms over these covered spaces served as terraces to walk upon when the sun was not above the horizon." Our author gives a very striking idea of the appearance of this court when he calls it "a forest of columns." "Beyond, again, was a third court, with chambers right and left. In this court are four obelisks of granite, beautifully wrought, two large and two smaller, and all covered with hieroglyphics. These tasteful and elegant productions were placed to adorn the entrance of a small sanctuary, for which it appears indeed that the whole of the vast edifice was reared, producing a contrast which excites in the mind a respect for the sanctity of the tabernacle which occupies the centre of all these edifices. This holy of holies is constructed entirely of granite, covered with small hieroglyphics representing offerings being made to the God of Plenty. The ceiling is painted blue sprinkled with golden stars. On each side of the sanctuary is a small chamber; beyond the sanctuary is another large court, adorned with porticos and galleries, and having at the end a range of cells. A wall covered with hieroglyphics surrounds the entire temple; an avenue of sphinxes led to the north, another on the south, a mile long, communicated with the temple at Luxor; each held between its paws a small temple, in which was a figure of Isis. On all sides are remains of other temples more or less ruined, and at last Denon exclaims, "One is fatigued to describe, and to read, and to think of such a conception; after having seen it, one can hardly credit the reality of the existence of so many structures, collected in one spot, of their size, of the determined resolution *(constance obstinee)* which exacted their erection, and of the incalculable expense of such magnificence."



SQUARE OF OAK MARQUETRY.

Our last number exhibited a sketch of a plate of inlaid wood for flooring, and we now furnish a second design of a similar kind. Both these and many other patterns are manufactured by machinery at the East London Commercial Saw Mills, Berners-street, Commercial-road, East. This manufactory appears not have adopted the overcharged foreign and costly designs, which are very often incrusted with thin plates of fancy wood. The proprietors seem to have preferred solidity and simple designs in conformity with the English taste. The material of which the plates of inlaid wood for flooring is made, consists mostly of English and Baltic oak, which is to be obtained cheaper in England than elsewhere, from remnants in ship-builders' yards; and from the great stock of staves imported since the reduction of duty, exotic wood is for the same reason much cheaper in England than in any other place. This advantage, together with the perfection of machinery in England, renders it possible to produce both the simplest and richest patterns for flooring cheaper here than elsewhere, and for these reasons it is likely to become an article of export. The arrangement of the manufactory is well worth seeing. Twenty different circular and other saw-frames prepare the wood from its rawest state, through various stages, to perfection. These machines cut the rails, produce the grooves and tongues, and the panels are made to the strictest rectangle with their groove; other machines produce the tenons and shouldering with facility and precision in such a manner, that the separate parts of the plate can be readily put together. Another part of the machinery cuts the wood into diagonals, so that every degree of pointed and other angles may be obtained; and thus, by this process, it is possible to deliver to the public the pattern of inlaid flooring here given at a very moderate price. A lathe is used for planing the plates off at once, and the whole process is so perfect, that it is possible to sell these products under a third of the price of what they would cost were they made by hand. The plates are made of the cleanest and dryest English and foreign oak, joined together by tongues and grooves without glue, and every plate is 20½ inches square and 1¼ inches thick; three plates, which form a square yard, are sold in oak at 10s., with a proportional commission to builders and agents. This price is for simple patterns similar to the design in the last number of THE BUILDER; but richer designs, before the reader, made in oak and mahogany, are valued at about 15s per square yard.

THE NEW IRON BEACON FOR THE GOODWIN SANDS.

In consequence of the strong winds which have prevailed during the last week, it has been found impossible to plant this ingenious invention upon the Goodwin, which was intended to have been accomplished by the use of a chain lighter, to have been brought down by the Tartarus. Captain Bullock, R.N. Unfortunately, however, the weather having proved adverse, the Lords of the Admiralty have expressed their opinion that the season is too far advanced safely and properly to plant the beacon; and they have therefore deferred doing so until the spring. This beacon, which has cost the inventor no little pains and expense to mature, is what we shall term, after his own language, "ponderous footed;" and it consists of a cast-iron chamber, 6 ft. 6 in. high, by 4 ft. square, terminating in a solid point, and weighing about 4 tons. Within the chamber there is contained a socket, which is strengthened by iron brackets. In this socket is fixed five feet of the circular shaft of the beacon, which is made of inch-iron, cast hollow, the diameter of the lower part of the shaft being seven inches, and of the upper six. The two portions of the beacon are united by a flange and core; and the entire height, from the top of the chamber to the mark, is 27 feet. The mark is an ellipse, 6 feet by 4 in diameter, composed of round bars of wrought inch iron, strongly secured to the shaft by a flange and core, constructed so as to form a most conspicuous beacon, and also to offer the least possible resistance to the action of the wind. Next spring, by the direction of the Elder Brethren of the Hon. Trinity Board, it will be planted at the eastern end of the dangerous Goodwin, on the south side of the Swatchway into Trinity Bay. The sand at this part of the Goodwin is of a very hard and compact nature, so as to render the sinking to any depth a task of no very easy completion; but it is expected that the ponderous foot, or base of the beacon, being inserted some nine feet in the sand, the pressure from without of the sand upon the sides and the top of the base, in addition to its own weight (which, when filled with sand, will be upwards of six tons), will secure its perpendicular position and stability. The firmness of the sand at this part of the Goodwin, where the beacon is to be placed, will, of course, be favourable to its ultimate security. We hope that this beacon may answer the expectations of its inventor, and be the means of preserving many a vessel and hundreds of our fellow creatures from destruction.—*Dover Telegraph.*

An experiment with the electric light, which has been talked of so much as a substitute for gas, was made a few weeks ago on the top of a house on the Quay Conti, in Paris. The light was so brilliant, that at a distance of two hundred metres (about two hundred and twenty imperial yards), it was possible to read print or manuscript.

Glass scratches an iron hammer, proving that it is harder than iron; yet glass is the very type of fragility, yielding to the stroke of soft wood, or, indeed, of almost any thing.

The building of the new City prison at Lincoln, for which Mr. Marshall, of Hull, is contractor, is proceeding rapidly. The boundary walls have been erected to their full height, and the main building is now completed in its basement stories, level with the surface of the ground.

THE PAVER'S DOG.—Every one will remember the fireman's dog, which for many years was the constant attendant at a fire, let the distance have been ever so great. Another instance, equally extraordinary, of the devotedness of one of the canine species to another occupation, may be daily witnessed in the neighbourhood of the Borough. The Commissioners of Pavements of the Eastern Division of Southwark have a number of men constantly employed in the parishes of Bermondsey, St. John's, St. Thomas's, St. Olave's, &c., and wherever they are, will be seen a brown terrier running about the works they are engaged on, and never leaving till they leave. No one knows where he comes from, where he sleeps, or how he obtains his food, except what he gets from the men, whose strange companion he has thus been for no less than eight years. He goes regularly to the stoneyard near the Greenwich railway, about five o'clock in the morning in the summer, but later in the winter, and waits till the men go to their work. But if he should have missed them in any way, he proceeds over the district till he meets with them, and then takes his station by the barrow. No other dog dares approach the spot, or a biped, the clothes of the men. When the labour is over, he goes away, but no one knows where. As a matter of course, he is a great favourite among the men, and from Mr. Hall, the superintendent, having made his peculiarities known, he has become much noticed.—*London Paper.*

To learn more about PDF Compression and OCR visit TheDocumentsOffice.org